

**Town of Edmonston
Mayor and Town Council Legislative Session
Wednesday, May 14, 2014**

Minutes

Meeting was called to order by Vice Mayor Farrish at 7:30 pm.

In attendance:

Council Members: Pooley, White, Bee, Council Member – Elect Johnson, Town Attorney Sue Ford, Chief of Police Walker and Town Clerk Rodriguez.

Excused: Mayor Robert Kerns

Mayor Kerns led the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

Motion made by CM Pooley, second by CM Bee. Agenda approved.

Vice Mayor Farrish allows for Prince Georges County Board of Education member Ms. Peggy Higgins to address the Council.

Action Items for Legislative Meeting

1. Action on Charter Resolution 2014-01 Re: New Schedule for Council Meetings, made by CM Pooley and second by CM White. Motion passed, Vice Mayor Farrish in favor
2. Action on budget Ordinance 2014-OR 02 Budget fiscal year 2014-2015. Motion tabled
3. Motion to approve legislative minutes for the month of February, March and April 2014. Motion tabled.

Town Attorney Ms. Sue Ford addresses Vice Mayor Farrish, inquiring if her services are no longer needed, if she can be excused from meeting. Vice Mayor Farrish excuses the town attorney, and explains that this will allow us to reduce the amount paid on legal fees.

Council Report:

Cm Bee:

- She is grateful to be re- elected for another term.
- During her campaigning was able to meet several residents that were happy with the town, and the services provided. In addition several residents mentioned their concerns about approximately 20 people living under the bridge.

CM White:

- Mentions that during her campaigning she was surprised to hear about drug activity going on in Elizabeth Landing. Several incidents were brought to her attention and should be addressed. In general, the response from residents was that Edmonston is a nice and quiet town. No really bad complaints just some areas that need to have more attention in cleaning.
- Attended the Port Towns Quarterly Meeting that was hosted by Edmonston. Learned about the different activities that other towns are doing. Would like to adopt the incentive that Bladensburg is doing on having a Community Forum where residents can come out and meet/ address their council members with concerns. As Bladensburg, we can have the forum on a Saturday, this will allow for residents that cannot make it to our council meeting to have a chance to express themselves.

CM Pooley:

- Green Team:
 - The team would like to have a column in the Town Newsletter that will enable them to share valuable information with residents.
 - Recommends the Town to use Washington Gas as our energy supplier for clean energy, as well as sign up to the Groundswell.
 - Requests for any miscellaneous funds be assigned to the functions/ meetings of the Green Team.
- The implementation of Edmonston Community Garden will be on hold until next year. This is because we still need to educate residents in the matter as well as the season of the year. Suggests that we have a demonstrational plot with easy growing vegetables near Fountain Park Apartment as well as educational workshop for residents.

Vice Mayor's Report:

Vice Mayor Farrish reports:

- Previously had commented that she wasn't able to attend this meeting, because she is part of Senator Paul Pinsky's Scholarship Evaluation Committee. Mayor Kerns contacted her informing his inability to attend the meeting, for which she is presiding the meeting.
- Attended the Port Town Quarterly Meeting as well and supports Cm White's suggestions for the Community Forum. She requests for CM White to take charge of putting idea in motion.
- On Monday, May 12th, hosted a tour of our Decatur Street with Lt. Governor Anthony Brown and Former Governor Parris Glendening. This event wasn't publicly advertised, because it was part of Brown's Campaign. The areas that were highlighted during the tour were the important aspects of landscaping and the reduction of our carbon footprint. Former Mayor Adam Ortiz was able to provide the guidance and information that was needed to ensure proper delivery of our message and mission. Would like to express our gratitude to Ms. Eloisa Guzman, owner of La Fondita Restaurant, for allowing the use of her parking lot for the event.
- Some residents from 48th Avenue have questioned the need for parking permit restrictions on their street. Would like to have a study done.

Police/ Code Report

- Chief gives and explains police/ code reports.

- Walker explains that we have not received any applicants for the Code Enforcement position. He suggests that the starting salary be increased to \$40,000 in order to attract applicants.
- We have finally posted on the MML Website, the position for Town Administrator. Once qualified candidates have been identified we will proceed with the interview process that will consist of a panel. He recommends that the panel be composed of Mayor Elect Farrish, himself and town administrator from a neighboring town.

Unfinished Business:

Vice Mayor Farrish mentions to council that she would like to discuss during a work session the coordination of series public hearings to discuss trash collection, fruit grove, and community garden.

New Business:

Cm Pooley suggests with the new enforcement from Prince Georges County Department of Environment on the use of bags, several actions be taken.

- In resemblance to practice done at the Town of Bladensburg, we should have the bags available for residents at the Town Hall for purchase.
- We can also list on the website/ newsletter locations where these brown bags can be purchase with maybe we can include the price as well.
- Research be done on the price of labels that can be placed on their trash cans identifying the contents as yard waste (similar to labels used in Montgomery County).

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting by CM Pooley, second by CM Bee @ 8:20pm

Motion Approved, Vice Mayor Farrish in favor

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Revised 7/22/14